

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AEC-11 ACDA-19 /141 R

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EA/J-MR. CAMPBELL
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R 102149Z APR 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
SECDEF
CNO
CINCPACFLT
COMUSJAPAN
COMUSNAVFOR YOKOSUKA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 072900

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, JP, PBOR
SUBJECT: NPW VISITS

REF: A. STATE 49803 B. TOKYO 2770

1. MAJOR ITALIAN NEWSPAPER IL MESSAGERO ON MARCH 22
CARRIED STORY URGING THAT ITALY FOLLOW JAPANESE ACTION
IN BANNING PORT CALLS BY US SSN'S BECAUSE OF ALLEGED
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INCREASES IN RADIOACTIVITY LEVELS, AND CHARGING THAT GOI

DID NOT TAKE SUFFICIENT PRECAUTIONS IN THIS RESPECT WHEN IT AUTHORIZED HOMEPORTING OF SSN TENDER AT LA MADDELENA. COMMUNISTS HAVE POSED INTERPELLATION IN PARLIAMENT, AND EMBASSY ROME EXPECTS FURTHER PRESS INTEREST.

2. IL MESSAGERO STORY IS BADLY TWISTED VERSION OF FACTS. (EMBASSY ROME HAS SO INFORMED GOI AND NEWSMAN INVOLVED.) NEVERTHELESS, THE INCIDENT ILLUSTRATES TYPE OF PROBLEM EXPERIENCED BY THE US IN OTHER PORTS OF THE WORLD AS RESULT OF JAPANESE MONITORING SCANDAL. YOU SHOULD BRING THIS MATTER TO ATTENTION OF APPROPRIATE GOJ AUTHORITIES, UNDERSCORING USG CONCERN THAT CONTINUED DELAY IN RESUMING NPW VISITS TO JAPANESE PORTS CREATES GROWING RISK OF MISINTERPRETATION BY OTHER GOVERNMENTS AND EXPLOITATION BY DOMESTIC OPPOSITIONS ELSEWHERE. TO THE EXTENT THAT THIS HAPPENS, SITUATION IN JAPAN THUS POSES ISSUES WHICH GO WELL BEYOND GOJ'S INTERNAL DIFFICULTIES OR EVEN US/GOJ BILATERAL SECURITY RELATIONSHIP. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT SENIOR LEVEL OF GOJ FULLY RECOGNIZE THIS MULTILATERAL AND POTENTIALLY VERY SERIOUS ASPECT OF PROBLEM.

3. EMBASSY IS ALSO REQUESTED TO REVIEW WITH GOJ OFFICIALS CONCERNED THE CURRENT STATUS OF GOJ EFFORTS TO REESTABLISH EFFECTIVE RADIATION EVALUATION SYSTEM. WE NOTE THAT ACCORDING TO TIMETABLE SET OUT REF B, CONTRACTING AND TRAINING PHASES SHOULD NOW BE NEAR COMPLETION AND TESTING PHASE ABOUT TO BEGIN. APPRECIATE YOUR BEST ASSESSMENT IN LIGHT OF PROGRESS TO DATE OF PROSPECTS FOR RESUMING VISITS APPROXIMATELY MID-MAY. IF GOJ TIMETABLE NOT REASONABLY ON SCHEDULE AND EMBASSY SEES SUBSTANTIAL RISK THAT DELAY WILL EXTEND BEYOND THAT DATE, WOULD ALSO LIKE YOUR JUDGMENT ON NATURE AND TIMING OF ADDITIONAL DEMARCHES WE MIGHT MAKE TO IMPRESS UPON GOJ URGENCY AND SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH USG VIEWS SITUATION. KISSINGER

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